



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

- WHEREAS: Georgia has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's sportsmen and sportswomen were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitats. Their license fees helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources. Upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, sportsmen and women supported self-imposed excise taxes on hunting, fishing and boating equipment to raise additional conservation funding; and
- WHEREAS: To this day, DNR is funded largely by sportsmen and sportswomen, through the American System of Conservation Funding – a “user pays – public benefits” approach that is widely recognized as a successful model of fish and wildlife management and is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year; and
- WHEREAS: Last year alone, Georgia's sportsmen and women generated \$50,397,979 to support DNR conservation efforts; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's 1.8 million hunters and anglers also support the state's economy by spending more than \$2.2 billion while engaged in their pursuits. This spending supports more than 39,000 jobs in Georgia and generates \$215 million in state and local taxes; and
- WHEREAS: National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2017, as HUNTING AND FISHING DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF